

Healthy Homes Grantees in Region III, Mid-Atlantic

Name of Grantee: Healthy Homes Resources Inc., Pittsburgh, PA
Name of Project: AT HOME - Asthma Trigger Home Evaluation Project
Amount Awarded: \$ 910, 875
Year of Grant: 2004

Contact info:

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Project Partners: Department of Environmental & Occupational Health,
University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, Pediatrics, Allergy & Immunology
Allegheny-Singer Research Institute, West Penn Allegheny Health System, American
Respiratory Alliance of Western Pennsylvania

Summary of Project Activities:

In 2004, Healthy Home Resources was awarded a total of \$1.2 million in grants from The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, The Raymond John Wean Foundation and The Heinz Endowments for its AT HOME (Asthma Trigger Home Evaluation) Program. The AT HOME Program specifically reaches at-risk children (ages 4 to 17) with asthma, living in the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. Through 5 in-home visits, a technical HHR staff member performs a full inspection of the home and monitors the environmental trigger levels, which reveal the allergens that cause asthmatic symptoms. These indoor triggers of concern could include cockroach, rodent, pet, dust mite allergens, pollens, molds, moisture levels, tobacco smoke, and dust. Once these levels are determined, HHR creates an intervention plan to reduce or eliminate these triggers in the home and improve the child's overall breathing conditions. Through this plan, HHR provides participants with asthma-friendly cleaning supplies (I.e., HEPA Vacuum, Dehumidifier, HEPA Air Purifier, Professional mops, etc.), interactively teaches them proper asthma-friendly cleaning techniques, and contracts with professional companies to provide pest management, air duct cleaning, and carpet cleaning to families, when needed.

Partner Organizations:

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Product Outcomes/Outputs:

Outcomes of the project will include:

- Environmental Health and safety hazards remediated in 150 homes
- Research-based Residential Environmental Trigger Assessments will be conducted and analyzed
- Data will be analyzed from both Full and Field Pulmonary Function Tests
- Data from main asthma severity indicators will be analyzed
- Changes in knowledge, attitudes, and behavior will be analyzed